

**REQUEST  
FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

**MAIL STOP RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or  
plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995

Application Number	10/777,768
Confirmation Number	2968
Filing Date	February 13, 2004
First Named Inventor	Jean Gilbert BOULET
Group Art Unit	3672
Examiner Name	TSAY, Frank
Matter Number	Q79840

Title	DRILL STRING ELEMENT HAVING AT LEAST ONE BEARING ZONE, A DRILL STRING, AND A TOOL JOINT
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This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**1. SUBMISSION REQUIRED UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Please enter and consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Petition for Extension of Time
- v. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**2. MISCELLANEOUS**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a  
period of \_\_\_\_\_ months
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. FEES**

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all the statutory fee in the amount of \$790.00 and all other required fees,  
except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said  
Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

**CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

*Direct all correspondence to the address for SUGHRUE MION, PLLC filed under the Customer Number listed below:*

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

**SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY**

Name	John H. Mion	Registration No.	18,879
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Signature	/John H. Mion/	Date	March 27, 2006
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